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FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2019

Pulse of Wabash

Thanksgiving newspaper distributed on Wednesday

This year's Thanksgiving newspaper will be printed and distributed Wednesday, Nov. 27, since the U.S. Postal Service does not deliver on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 28. It will be full of advertisements for Black Friday shopping deals and all the local news you'll need for the holiday weekend. Please call 260-563-2131 for more information.

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Southwood choirs to present holiday concert

Southwood Junior-Senior High School choirs will present a concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22 at St. Patrick's Church in Lagro. The public is invited to attend. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the end of the concert to help preserve the church and to help fund the school's music program.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Nov. 23, 24, 29 and 30. Dec. 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Annual Living Gift Market set for Nov. 23

Celebrate Christmas at Heifer International's 32nd Living Gift Market from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23 at Timbercrest Senior Living, 2201 East St., North Manchester. For more information, email Jim Myer at jmyerwdw@yahoo.com.

Holidays to be welcomed with an annual open house

To mark the beginning of the holiday season, the Honeywell House will host its annual Holiday Open House from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24, at 720 N. Wabash St.

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Inside

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Controversial intersection project to be subject of town hall

Median U-turn project located at County Road 300 East and Indiana 24

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

An upcoming intersection project set to start next spring has caused heated local reaction and will be subject of a public meeting this weekend.

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-Huntington, will host a town hall meeting along with State Rep. Dave Wolkins, R-Warsaw, to discuss the update on the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Indiana

24 project, according to a press release.

The project in question is planned for Lagro at the intersection of Indiana 24 and County Road 300 East.

The town hall has been planned for 8 to 9 a.m. Sat-

urday, Nov. 23 at the Honeywell Center's Honeywell Room, 275 W. Market St.

Local reaction

In a phone interview, Zay said he had attended previous public meetings on the project and there was "no

segment of support" locally "by any means."

"It is what is. I'm not one to throw safety to the wind and I'm not trying to second guess them, but I would ask them to take another look at it and ask them very definitively to and it's the

See INDOT / Page A3

Salamonie Preschool program 'B is for Bird Beak,' set for Dec. 3

Event is designed to enhance the preschooler's basic education

Staff Report

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "B is for Bird Beak" from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, according to a press release.

"Did you know different bird beaks mean they eat different food?" stated the release.

This program is designed to enhance the preschooler's basic education, including music, crafts, social interaction and time outdoors, always with a nature-related theme.

The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling 260-468-2127.

For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Former security official undercuts Trump impeachment defense

BY LISA MASCARO,
MARY CLARE JALONICK
and ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In riveting testimony, a former national security official declared Thursday that a U.S. ambassador carried out a controversial "domestic political errand" for Donald Trump on Ukraine, an allegation undercutting a main line of the president's defense in the impeachment inquiry.

Fiona Hill told House investigators she came to realize Ambassador Gordon Sondland wasn't simply operating outside official diplomatic channels, as she and others suspected, but carrying out instructions from Trump.

"He was being involved in a domestic political errand, and we were being involved in national security foreign policy,"

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'Endangered and Disappearing'

PROVIDED PHOTO BY MATT WILLIAMS

MALE CERULEAN WARBLER: According to the National Audubon Society, the cerulean warbler shows "strongly declining numbers in recent years," according to surveys.

Presentation highlights the threatened birds of the Midwest

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

The numbers are staggering.

Over one-third of our common landbird species have declined by more than 15 percent since 1970.

During that time, 46 species have lost half or more of their populations during that same time period.

Since 1970, we have lost approximately 1.5 billion birds in North America.

During his presentation Nov. 12 at Manchester University, Matt Williams, author of the recent book, "Endangered and Disappearing Birds of the Midwest," tried to put that number in context.

"If you laid 1.5 billion robin-sized birds beak to tail, you could build a stack of birds from the surface of the Earth to the moon," he said.

Williams was there to profile several threatened bird species in our region.

He is the director of conservation programs at the Nature Conservancy and has many years of research experience studying bird populations, according to Dave Hicks, of the Tippecanoe Audubon Society.

But, it wasn't all doom and gloom. At the end of Williams' presentation, he offered a list of actions bird lovers could take, courtesy

of Partners in Flight:

- Implement conservation practices in agricultural and rangeland landscapes through Farm Bill and other incentive programs to reverse or sustain grassland and arid-land bird populations.

- Preserve green space and use native plants in urban and suburban landscaping.

- Support sustainable forestry practices in the U.S. and Canada.

- Use bird-friendly coffee and other sustainable products from Neotropical countries.

- Reduce the loss of forests and other habitats in nonbreeding areas through international programs and policies.

- Support, promote, and contribute to citizen science databases such as eBird, Breeding Bird Surveys and Christmas Bird Counts.

- Reduce the use of pesticides, and improve our knowledge about the role of pesticides in insect (as prey) and bird population declines.

- Financially support conservation organizations that are committed to preserving and appropriately managing natural habitats in North and South America.

- Reduce and prevent col-



WOOD THRUSH: This wood thrush was spotted in Indiana's Big Walnut Nature Preserve.



PRESENTATION: Matt Williams is the author of the recent book, "Endangered and Disappearing Birds of the Midwest."

lisions with buildings and other structures by implementing known solutions.

- Remove feral cats from public lands and keep pet cats from roaming freely.

Cami Shrock concert planned for Dec. 1

Performance scheduled at Wabash First Church of God

Staff Report

Cami Shrock will be in concert at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 1 at the Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St., according to a press release.

The oldest of three, Cami's parents exposed her and her siblings to southern gospel music from the beginning.

By the time she was 6, "she knew she was called to minister through music."

"As I became an adult and started my own family, I had often wondered why God had not opened that door. I now know that there were trials I had

to overcome before the doors finally opened," stated Shrock.

The public is invited to attend. There is no charge but seating is limited. A love offering will be received for the ministry of Cami Shrock.

"She is thrilled to be pursuing her dream to sing and share the love of Jesus wherever the Lord takes her," stated the release.

Following the concert, there will be a carry-in dinner at the REMC conference room. Meat, drinks and tableware will be furnished. For additional information, call 260-563-5346.



CONCERT:
Cami Shrock will be in concert at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 1 at the Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St.

PROVIDED PHOTO

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Inside

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PULSE

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'A Christmas Story' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"A Christmas Story" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Christian Heritage Church plans annual Thanksgiving dinner

The annual Thanksgiving dinner for the community has been planned from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 28 at Christian Heritage Church, 2776 River Road. Carry-out and delivery will also be available. For delivery call 260-569-7710. Please leave a message with your name, phone number, address and number of meals needed. These dinners will be provided free for all.

BMV announces Thanksgiving holiday hours

All Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) branches will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Branches will resume regularly scheduled business hours on Saturday, Nov. 30.

Winter Banner Competition artwork displayed

The students' artwork will hang in the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center through Sunday, Dec. 1.

'It's a Wonderful Life' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Woman's Clubhouse plans evening Christmas dinner

Don't forget the Christmas evening dinner Thursday, Dec. 5. It is the annual holiday fundraiser with a very special dinner and entertainment. The house will be decorated in an angel theme this year. Contact Carol McDonald by phone at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 for more information.

Museum to host Family Fun Night

The Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will host a Family Fun Night on Friday, Dec. 6, featuring a visit from Santa Claus.

'The Polar Express' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"The Polar Express" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet planned

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will be hosting Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet.

'White Christmas' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"White Christmas" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

DivorceCare presents 'Surviving the Holidays' series

The DivorceCare support group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13, will be offering a DVD series "Surviving the Holidays" through Tuesday, Dec. 17. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Breakfast with Santa planned

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Santa will be coming to Breakfast with Santa and will have a special treat for children at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St.

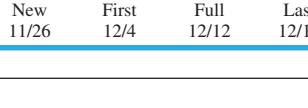
Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and

5-Day Weather Summary

	Friday Partly Cloudy 41 / 28		Saturday Isolated Snow 37 / 30		Sunday Partly Cloudy 40 / 33		Monday Mostly Cloudy 46 / 35		Tuesday Scattered Rain 49 / 36
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:25 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:44 a.m.

New
11/26First
12/4Full
12/12Last
12/18**Detailed Local Outlook**

Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 41°, humidity of 62%. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 28°. East wind 1 to 5 mph. Saturday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of isolated snow, high of 37°, humidity of 75%.

Nonallergic rhinitis can be triggered by spicy foods

Hello, dear readers, and welcome back to our monthly letters column. We're happy to report that you've been busy correspondents, so onward to your letters.

■ A reader from Pennsylvania asked for the name of a condition in which eating food causes one's nose to begin running. This is a type of nonallergic rhinitis, which means the inflammation of the nasal passages is not related to allergies. In this case, the specific name for the condition is gustatory rhinitis, and it's often triggered by hot or spicy foods. But as is the case with our reader, it can also occur when eating any kind of food. The good news is that ipratropium bromide, a prescription nasal spray sold as Atrovent, can be effective when used before eating.

■ In response to a column about hemorrhoids, a reader from Indiana shares that she and her husband have had success preventing hemorrhoids by using a supplement called rutin. A plant pigment and natural antioxidant, rutin is contained in many fruits and vegetables. Rutin is believed to aid in circulation, and studies show it can improve blood cholesterol. While it is safe to eat natural sources of rutin — such as apples, citrus fruit, asparagus and green tea — rutin supplements can sometimes be associated with unwelcome side effects, such as headache, stomach upset and heart arrhythmias. Always check with your health care provider before using any supplements. Many are not regulated, and some can have unexpected drug interactions.

■ A reader in Indiana wonders about the safety of public grill grates at campgrounds. Some of these grates "have a great deal of rust on them. There is no way you would be able to remove it all," he wrote. "Most

people just dump in the charcoal and start grilling. What about all that rust that surely gets on the food being cooked?"

Rust, which is iron oxide, is harmless in small quantities. That said, if the grill that you're using is damaged to the point that it's crumbling, it's wise to steer clear. However, if the grill has visible rust but isn't giving off particles, and as long as you're not using it on a regular basis, the small amount of rust that may get transferred to the food is benign.

■ And finally, a reader from North Dakota requests that we write a column about how to reduce blood pressure. It's an important issue, and we will gladly comply — be on the lookout for upcoming information. Meanwhile, she shares an unexpected technique she uses when her

own BP climbs a bit too high:

"We learned the polka in gym class when I was in school," she wrote. "Now, when I want to get my blood pressure down, I put on a polka CD and dance and clap and shake myself for about 15 minutes, and the blood pressure reading goes way down."

We thank you, as always, for reading the column and taking the time to write to us. We look forward to hearing from you, and will see you again in the letters column next month.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Wabash Plain Dealer

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■ Legals: legals@wabashplaindealer.com

■ Retail: cbrown@wabashplaindealer.com

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Gingerbread Festival

"Dream" home on your mind?

JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENT AND CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE!

Vote for your favorite entry in our Gingerbread House Contest! A cherished holiday tradition, these gingerbread houses, created by local individuals, families, churches and clubs, will be a delight to see—and sweet memories will make you feel warm all over as you cast your vote for your favorite "dream" home.

Enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in our beautifully decorated community, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, delight in holiday musical entertainment and get the whole family involved in a special Gingerbread Trail treasure hunt. There will be prizes for adults and children!

Gingerbread Festival
Sunday, November 24 2 to 4 p.m.
400 W. Seventh Street N. Manchester, IN 46962
260-982-8616 PEABODYRC.ORG
Managed by Life Care Services

Speaking of finding your dream home...the holidays are a great time to see how Peabody retirement living could be the lifestyle you've had in mind!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU.

AREA GRAIN
Estimated grain prices Thursday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$3.96. Soybeans: \$8.79.

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
02-18-26-33-45
Estimated jackpot: \$310,500
Cash4Life
17-21-31-49-51, Cash Ball: 2
Lotto Plus
01-06-12-23-24-40
Daily Three-Midday
9-2-4, SB: 3
Daily Three-Evening
5-4-6, SB: 5
Daily Four-Midday
1-9-2-7, SB: 3
Daily Four-Evening
9-4-1-3, SB: 5
Hoosier Lotto
10-13-33-37-38-45
Estimated jackpot: \$3 million
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$208 million
Powerball
07-15-39-40-57, Powerball: 12, Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$80 million

THURSDAY'S METALS

Aluminum.....	79
Copper.....	2.65
Lead.....	.91
Zinc.....	1.07
Gold.....	1,463.54
Silver.....	17.07
Platinum.....	920.26

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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:25 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:44 a.m.

■ Detailed Local Outlook

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Obituaries

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WPD

Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service

We can assist you with your Pre-planning and monument needs.



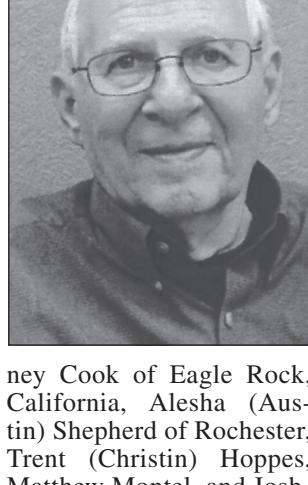
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www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Lloyd James Hopps

March 13, 1930 - Nov. 21, 2019



Lloyd James Hopps, 89, of rural Wabash, Indiana, died at 4:15 am, Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019 at Wellbrooke of Wabash. He was born March 13, 1930 in Wabash County, Indiana to Elmer and Edith (Bickel) Hopps.

Lloyd was a 1948 graduate of Chippewa High School. He married Helen Roser at the Roann Church of the Brethren on Aug. 5, 1949; she preceded him in death on May 24, 2019. He was a dairyman several years, drove truck for the Indiana Farm Bureau 20 years and retired from Pierceton Trucking Company in Laketon after 8 years. Lloyd was also a substitute bus driver for the Metropolitan School District of Wabash County. He was a lifelong member of the Walk By Faith Community Church in Roann. He is survived by 4 children, Deborah (Roger) Cook, Craig (Tonya) Hopps, Todd (Rachel) Hopps, and Cathy (Greg) Montel, all of Wabash, 11 grandchildren, Stacy (Troy) Baer of Urbana, Kelly (Kevin) Ross of Lagro, Amy (Adam) Copeland of Wabash, Cari (Chris) Carmichael and Cameron (Melissa) Cook, both of Fort Wayne, Caley (Jason) Eads of Corydon, Iowa, Court-

ney Cook of Eagle Rock, California, Alesha (Austin) Shepherd of Rochester, Trent (Christin) Hopps, Matthew Montel, and Joshua Montel, all of Wabash, and 17 great grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by his parents, brother, Marion Hopps, and an infant sister, Shirley.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 25, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastor Jody Tyner officiating. Burial will be in Roann Community Cemetery. Friends may call 2 - 6 p.m. Sunday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is F.I.S.H.

The memorial guest book for Lloyd may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Thomas Rex Snavely

Funeral services for Thomas Rex Snavely, 85, of Wabash, were 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. Pastor J.P. Freeman, officiated and Susan Vanlandingham was the

musician. Pallbearers were Larry Carpenter, Jeff Deniston, Bill McKenzie, Chris Crace, Bill Urschel and Tom Hall. Burial was in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Military honors by U.S. Navy and VFW Post 286.

UNDERCUT

Continued from A1

she testified, "and those two things had just diverged."

Hill's comment followed a blistering back-and-forth during questioning from Republicans at the House hearing.

Testimony from Hill and David Holmes, a State Department adviser in Kyiv, capped an intense week in the historic inquiry and reinforced the central complaint: that Trump used foreign policy for political aims, setting off alarms across the U.S. national security and foreign policy apparatus.

Democrats allege Trump was relying on the discredited idea that Ukraine rather than Russia interfered in the 2016 U.S. election as he sought investigations in return for two things: U.S. military aid that Ukraine needed to fend off Russian aggression, and a White House visit the new Ukrainian president wanted that would demonstrate his backing from the West.

One by one, Hill, a Russia expert at the White House's National Security Council until this summer, took on Trump's defenses.

She and Holmes both told House investigators it was abundantly clear Trump's lawyer Rudy Giuliani was pursuing political investigations of Democrats and Joe Biden in Ukraine.

"He was clearly pushing forward issues and ideas that would, you know, probably come back to haunt us and in fact," Hill testified. "I think that's where we are today."

And Hill stood up for Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, the Army officer who testified earlier and whom Trump's allies tried to discredit." He

remains at the White House National Security Council.

At one point, Republicans interjected, trying to cut off Hill's response as she flipped the script during the afternoon of questioning. The GOP lawmakers had been trying to highlight her differences with Sondland, the ambassador to the European Union who delivered damaging testimony Wednesday about what he said was Trump's "quid pro quo" pursuit of the political investigations.

The Republican lawmakers eventually wound down their questions but continued with mini-speeches decrying the impeachment effort. Democrats, in turn, criticized Trump's actions.

Hill, a former aide to then-national security adviser John Bolton, sternly warned Republican lawmakers – and implicitly Trump – to quit pushing a "fictional" narrative that Ukraine, rather than Russia, interfered in U.S. elections.

Trump has told others testifying in the inquiry that Ukraine tried to "take me down" in the 2016 election. Republicans launched their questioning Thursday reviving those theories.

Hill declared: "I refuse to be part of an effort to legitimize an alternative narrative that the Ukrainian government is a U.S. adversary, and that Ukraine – not Russia – attacked us in 2016."

Her testimony also raised fresh questions whether Bolton, who has yet to defy White House orders for officials not to testify, would appear in the inquiry. In what was seen as a nudge to her former boss, Hill said those with information have a "moral obligation to provide it."

The landmark House im-

peachment inquiry was sparked by a July 25 phone call, in which Trump asked Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskiy for investigations into Biden and the Democratic National Committee. A still-anonymous whistleblower's official government complaint about that call led the House to launch the current probe.

Hill and Holmes both filled in gaps in previous testimony and poked holes in the accounts of other witnesses. They were particularly adamant that efforts by Trump and Giuliani to investigate the Burisma company were well-known by officials working on Ukraine to be the equivalent of probing the Bidens. That runs counter to earlier testimony from Sondland and Kurt Volker, the former Ukraine special envoy, who insisted they had no idea there was a connection.

Holmes, a late addition to the schedule, also undercut some of Sondland's recollections about an extraordinary phone call between the ambassador and Trump on July 26, the day after the president's call with Ukraine. Holmes was having lunch with Sondland in Kyiv and said he could overhear Trump ask about "investigations" during a "colorful" conversation.

After the phone call, Holmes said Sondland told him Trump cared about "big stuff," including the investigation into the "Biden investigation." Sondland said he didn't recall raising the Bidens.

During Thursday's testimony, the president tweeted that while his own hearing is "great" he's never been able to understand another person's conversation that wasn't on speaker. "Try it,"

he suggested.

Holmes also testified about his growing concern as Giuliani orchestrated Ukraine policy outside official diplomatic channels. It was a concern shared by others, he testified.

"My recollection is that Ambassador Sondland stated, "Every time Rudy gets involved he goes and f—s everything up."

Holmes testified that he grew alarmed throughout the year, watching as Giuliani was "making frequent public statements pushing for Ukraine to investigate interference in the 2016 election and issues related to Burisma and the Bidens."

Hill left the White House before the July phone call that sparked the impeachment probe, though she was part of other key meetings and conversations related to Ukraine policy. She opened her testimony with an impassioned plea for Republicans to stop peddling an alternative theory of 2016 election interference and helping Russia sow divisions in the United States.

"This is exactly what the Russian government was hoping for," she said about the currently American political climate. "They would pit one side of our electorate against the others."

She warned that Russia is gearing up to intervene again in the 2020 U.S. election. "We are running out of time to stop them," she testified.

Trump – as well as Republicans on the panel, including ranking GOP Rep. Devin Nunes of California – continue to advance the idea that Russian interference was a "hoax," and that it was Ukraine that was trying to swing the election, to stop Trump's presidency.

INDOT

Continued from A1

wishes of the people too. I haven't been happy with what they've done and how they've handled that process," said Zay.

Zay said he and Wolkins have worked to try to have the project stopped. He said they would discuss their efforts at the town hall meeting.

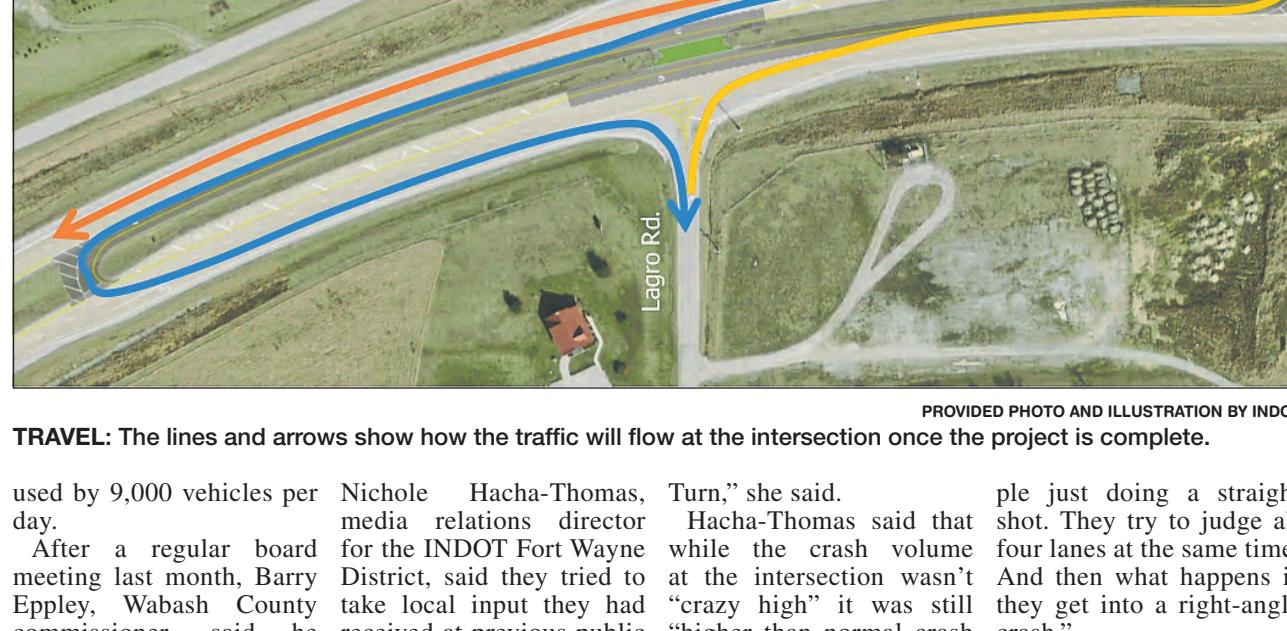
"While I understand INDOT's position on this matter, I've been presented with overwhelming feedback and many in our community strongly oppose the proposed (project.) It's my hope we can continue to work with INDOT to find an alternative solution to address safety concerns," stated Wolkins, in response to a Plain Dealer request.

Crash data provided by INDOT from 2014 to 2018 showed four injury and 11 property damage accidents at that intersection. In 2018 alone, there one property damage accident.

All the crashes were right-angle, 80 percent of which involved northbound and westbound vehicles. The most recent fatality was in 2009. INDOT stated the intersection was "identified as a high-crash location by frequency and severity."

"We're not in support of it. It seems like a lot of effort for something that doesn't need the attention. Given our infrastructure needs even the folks at the meeting could think of a handful of intersections within Wabash County that could use the attention apart from the ones that they are. Namely, (Indiana) 30," said Zay.

County Road 300, otherwise known as Lagro Road is used by 560 vehicles per day, while Indiana 24 is



TRAVEL: The lines and arrows show how the traffic will flow at the intersection once the project is complete.

used by 9,000 vehicles per day.

After a regular board meeting last month, Barry Eppley, Wabash County commissioner, said he "acknowledged there have been some mishaps at that intersection over the years, but we would contend that if the experience or the time was factored in, it's not an overly dangerous intersection."

Eppley said he would want to try additional signage before moving ahead with the construction.

"From a local perspective, there is no support for this intersection enhancement. If this is desired still by the state, we think it would be wise to take a long pause to allow for additional signage and awareness to be attempted to see how we perform as a community interacting with the road. Just a pause, because we don't think this is the way it should be addressed," he said.

INDOT responds

In a phone interview,

Nichole Hacha-Thomas, media relations director for the INDOT Fort Wayne District, said they tried to take local input they had received at previous public meetings into account going forward with the project.

"There were some things that were very clear. They did not want the road to close. They wanted to make sure that the access to Lagro and (Indiana) 24 is maintained. That's why this is a very good alternative here," she said.

Hacha-Thomas said the median U-Turn allows INDOT to build the new intersection in the current footprint of the current intersection.

"They don't want people to just drive on past because they think the town is closed. So, this (allows them) not only to keep the roadway open while we construct the median U-Turn, but it will also provide decent signage that indicates that Lagro is right around that median U-

Turn," she said.

Hacha-Thomas said that while the crash volume at the intersection wasn't "crazy high" it was still "higher than normal crash volume at that intersection than we would expect when you take into account traffic volume."

"We would expect there to be very few crashes there and what we're actually seeing is a higher number than normal and a higher number at that intersection than in the adjacent areas or intersections," she said.

Hacha-Thomas said drivers attempting to cross two directions of travel at the same time cause the majority of the crashes at that intersection.

"Most likely it's because it's hard to judge traffic that's four lanes away from plus a median. It's easier to judge the traffic in that closer lane to you because you can see it. You can feel it," she said. "Some people will stop in the median and then continue, but a lot of times what we see is peo-

ple just doing a straight shot. They try to judge all four lanes at the same time. And then what happens is they get into a right-angle crash."

Hacha-Thomas said right-angle crashes, or "T-bone" crashes, are some of the most severe and deadly collisions.

"A median U-turn allows drivers to do is to pay attention to one direction of travel at a time. Instead of pulling out into the median and continuing, they pull into a dedicated median U-turn lane, they use that lane to advance up to the median U-turn itself, pull into the U-turn, then they can judge the other direction of travel," she said.

Hacha-Thomas said another problem INDOT sees is stacking in the medians.

"The first vehicle (passes) that first direction of traffic and they pull into the median. There's another car behind them and they're like, 'Heck, I'm going to do it, too.' So they pull into the median. Or, heaven forbid,

you get a semi that stops in the middle of the median and then they're sticking out into the middle of the traffic lane," she said.

The cost of the project is estimated at between \$650,000 and \$900,000. Construction will begin in spring 2020 and will have a three- to six-month duration.

"Intersection improvement is about choosing the right improvement for the right time," she said. "A roundabout would not work here," she said.

INDOT estimated a roundabout would cost \$2 million to \$3.5 million and would require traffic on Indiana 24 to slow to approximately 25 miles per hour. A traffic signal could cost between \$300,000 and \$500,000 including the operating cost.

"We get people who ask why we can't build an overpass. An overpass is several million dollars for 560 vehicles a day. It's not cost-effective to taxpayers to build an overpass there," she said. "You have to balance the safety and the economic portion of it as well."

Hacha-Thomas said the median U-turn was a "proven safety countermeasure used across the country."

"We wouldn't be doing something that we didn't feel was going to work there," she said. "Certainly, we can't reduce this to zero crashes. If we could wave a magic wand and reduce this to zero crashes we would do that. Unfortunately, we can't. So, what we've got to try to do is engineer the roadway to be as safe as possible. We see that median U-turns do that. Median U-turns are one of the most cost-effective intersection improvements that we have."

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.

B33 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 1-202-224-5623 <http://coats.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.

B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-4814 <http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2

419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17

Indiana Senate 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9467 Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18

Indiana House 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9841 h18@in.gov

letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9:11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.



Romans 13:10

What do you think?

We want to hear your opinions, too. Here's how to get us your letters to the editor:

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260-563-0816 Letters to the Editor, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992

Email

news@wabashplaindealer.com

Hospital-cost transparency is a necessary first step to affordable health care

Shining a spotlight on opaque hospital-billing structures may not be a miracle cure for the rising cost of health care. But medical-cost transparency is worth pursuing on principle, alone.

No one would buy a car without knowing the sticker price. Few would hire a house painter without getting an estimate – or several – first. Yet, hospital patients usually don't learn the cost of their medical care until after they've been treated and receive a bill.

A new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services rule could change all that by demanding price transparency of every U.S. hospital. By January, 2021, the federal agency will require hospitals to disclose charges for every service they provide, including cash discounts and rates negotiated with third-party payers, such as insurance companies.

Additionally, they'll be required to publish plain-language estimated costs for all associated charges for 300 "shopable" services, such as joint replacements and other common treatments.

The intent is to enable patients to make informed decisions and to promote competition between providers. However, some hospital groups are objecting, saying

As two Washington peer-claims

the new rule will confuse patients rather than clarify potential out-of-pocket expenses. They suggest costs could actually increase by making it more difficult for providers to negotiate with insurers. They argue providers could just as easily decide to raise rates to meet competitors' charges as they could decide to lower them to remain competitive.

Four major provider associations – the American Hospital Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Children's Hospital Association and the Federation of American Hospitals – announced they will sue CMS to stop implementation of the new rule.

The Washington State Hospital Association shares many of those concerns, encouraging CMS instead to encourage care providers to voluntarily adopt user-friendly cost-estimator tools.

Certainly, pricing information should be user-friendly, says the leader of the Washington Health Alliance, a nonprofit organization that shares the data on health-care quality and value. "Transparency is foundational to helping improve the market. That said, it's tricky to talk about price in a way that's approachable for people," executive director Nancy Giunto said in an interview.

The Washington State Hospital Association shares many of those concerns, encouraging CMS instead to encourage care providers to voluntarily adopt user-friendly cost-estimator tools.

databases have shown, it is possible. The nonprofit Washington Health Alliance compiles and reports on health-care costs and spending. Launched last year, WAHealthCareCompare.com aggregates hospital, clinic, dental and prescription claims and eligibility data from the state's All-Payer Claims Database.

Researchers, policymakers and state agencies can tap into the robust pool of data to identify potential system improvements. Patients can look up quality data and average costs for dozens of common services, and generate an estimate of their out-of-pocket expenses based on their insurance plan.

The CMS rule appears to dramatically expand the transparency already available in Washington, both in amount of data to be published and by expanding it to other states. The change won't be a panacea, but it will be an important step. Whether a critical mass of health-care consumers will "shop around" for a hospital the way they do a car or contractor – many more factors go into medical decision-making – understanding the drivers of health-care costs is a necessary first step toward reining in runaway costs.

This editorial was first published in The Seattle Times.

A sly examination of elitism

"Elitist" is the most wounding epithet in an epoch when millions of Americans, having the courage of their egalitarian convictions, have placed in the presidency someone innocent of any intellectual, moral or other excellence that might remind them that some people have superior attributes. Elitism, more frequently deplored than defined, gets a sly examination in Joel Stein's "In Defense of Elitism: Why I'm Better Than You and You're Better than Someone Who Didn't Buy This Book."

This subversive romp pretends not to be the defense that it really is.

After the 2016 election, Stein sojourned in Roberts County, Texas, which had the nation's highest percentage (95.3 percent) of Trump voters and has several people named Rifle (the name Remington has become "too popular") and a dog trained to emit a pained whimper at the word "Hillary." But 33.2 percent of the residents have at least a bachelor's degree, which is around the national rate.

When a Roberts County judge asks Stein, who lives in Los Angeles, "Would you leave your child with anyone in a 10-block radius of your house?" Stein thinks his community is "virtual": "My friends appear on my phone far more often than on my doorstep." Roberts County people are especially "connected" to each other and relish this. They are, however, "a remote tribal island, untouched by the last 30 years." (Of the 25 states with the lowest percentage of passport holders, Donald Trump won 24.) And they are increasingly "distanced from their country." ("Even when things are desperate," Stein writes, "people won't venture far: Less than a third as many unemployed men move across state lines than they did in the mid-1950s. ... White people who stayed in their hometown were 50 percent more likely to vote for Trump than whites who moved even two hours away.")

It is, Stein says, understandable that people "still living in the 1950s" – in Roberts County, a cutting-edge, curved ultra-HD television is used to watch "Gunsmoke" – often feel disoriented and resentful. It is, however, "dangerous for people in the 1950s to vote on how people in the 21st century should behave."

Back in Los Angeles, Stein worries that "our striving, global, diverse, loosely intertwined lifestyle is breaking the world into angry atoms." At a dinner party with anti-Trump resisters, "I have never been part of a more heated conversation in which everyone agrees." He is unenthralled with the elite milieu: "(The elite) are far more into impressing each other than into making money. The elite dream is not to own a yacht but to give a TED talk." Some of today's elites are plebian, prominent without being distinguished, something that worried Winston Churchill nine decades ago: "The leadership of the privileged has passed away; but it has not been succeeded by that of the eminent."

Today's anti-elitism reflects the not-always-mistaken belief that eminence, even when validated by achievement, often reflects transmitted family advantages. It does not, however, follow that elites have neither earned their eminence nor are socially beneficial.

Granted, expert economists did not anticipate the 2008-09 financial crisis, but some of them prevented it from becoming Depression 2.0. Today's anti-elitism wields what Stein calls the Meteorologist Fallacy – because forecasts are sometimes wrong, meteorology is worthless.

"Populists argue that banks can't be trusted because their mortgage derivatives collapsed in 2008. It's an argument that is tricky to refute unless you've ever dealt with a child. Their first method of challenging adults is to say that you were wrong this one time about that one obscure fact, so you're probably wrong about humans needing to go to sleep at night."

Elites are necessarily small groups that exercise disproportionate influence. In any modern, complex democracy, the question is not whether elites shall rule, but which elites shall, so the perennial political problem is to get popular consent to worthy elites. In their calmer moments, Americans do not idealize mediocrity cloaked with power. And they know that representative government means that "the people" do not decide issues, they decide who shall decide. Away from politics, which most people treat more passionately than seriously, they are serious about depending on credentialed elites: "Nice landing, pilot." "Who is the city's best thoracic surgeon?"

"History," said the sociologist Vilfredo Pareto (1848-1923), "is a graveyard of elites." Yes, but of everyone else, too. And elites have produced things – from vaccines to the globalized commerce that has reduced extreme poverty worldwide 70 percent since 1990 – that have made lives better and longer before graveyards beckon.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.



Impeaching the media

As the second week of the impeachment hearings began, Republicans re-introduced an old theme for the usual purposes: Everything is the media's fault, and America wouldn't be in this jam but for their being puppets of the Democratic Party.

Such were the sentiments expressed by Republican Rep. Devin Nunes of California, ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, in his opening statement Tuesday morning. Nunes was obviously trying to create a backdrop for the day's testimony, which included such witnesses as an Iraq War combat veteran, who was wounded in battle, and an aide to Vice President Mike Pence. It's much harder to demonize such highly respected individuals than it is to drag out the media for yet another lashing.

If you had just tuned in from your interplanetary travels, however, you might have thought the media, not President Trump, were the subject of the impeachment inquiry. It was stale bread. Making an enemy of the media has long been a feature of Donald Trump's modus operandi. From his earliest campaign days, the then-future leader of the free world created an enemy to divert attention from his more problematic escapades and as a target to use when needed.

From alleged collusion with Russia to supposed bribery with Ukraine, the media have been performing as instruments of the Democratic Party, according to Nunes. He illustrated his point Tuesday by listing a series of headlines from various media outlets, including CNN, The New York Times, Slate and others (but not The Washington Post), all of which had been proved incorrect. It was effective as

a diversion, if not as the filtering lens he surely sought to create.

To Trump's base, the Nunes roster was simply further amplification of what they've long believed and for which they are enjoined with the president in a political matrimony of sorts. And though it is true that the media, by which we mean human beings, sometimes get things wrong, it is also likely that Nunes' team scoured the print and broadcast universe for mistaken headlines. A half-dozen or so examples do not a conspiracy of misinformation make. Is that all you got?

This is not to excuse careless journalism or what legitimately appears to be bias against Donald Trump but to offer some balance. Without question, certain folks, especially on cable news shows, have picked sides. That's what they do. The incessant, looping criticism contra the president can seem like an onslaught of unfair proportions. As a spectator, I agree that the steady diet of smirk and scorn becomes tiresome and, frankly, boring. Television gets an unfair proportion of audiences because, well, it's television. Watching is easier than reading.

But a careful reading of a broad spectrum of readily available ideas and investigative journalism might prove valuable to those wishing to understand the reasoning behind the critique. There is ample cause to call out this president, from a self-regard that seems detached from reality to his dubious courtship of bad actors.

As to the impeachment inquiry, it's difficult to fathom how anyone would not see a problem with the president of the United States soliciting a foreign country to investigate his political opponent in exchange for promised military aid.

Other avenues for such an investigation, if warranted, would be both more credible and less risky. But Trump specifically wanted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to make a public announcement that he was conducting such an investigation, according to testimony Wednesday by Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland. Also, Sondland said, the quid pro quo of a White House invite in exchange for the investigation was obvious, even if Trump never said the words.

The only question remaining is whether Trump's actions justify impeachment, the answer to which seems plainly partisan. Americans have had numerous opportunities the past three years to ask how Republican elected officials could still support such a president. Almost nostalgically, one recalls the days when, innocently, one would think: Surely, this time they'll jump ship? Of course, they didn't – and likely won't this time for the simple reason that their constituents aren't demanding it. And, by the way, they hate the media, too.

Nunes' blame-the-media tactic, however, should be seen for what it was – a desperate act in the face of credible, damning testimony.

For an alternative media narrative, one might entertain the possibility that when, say, a conservative columnist agrees with the Democrats, they might both be right.

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Worship

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WPD

CHURCH NEWS

Asbury Country Church

On Sunday, Nov. 24, worship services at Asbury Country Church will be at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday school will be at 9:30 a.m. The worship leader will be Amy Bullick. The music leader will be Mel Hoover. Piano music will be by Cathy Staggs. The morning message from Pastor Mike Bullick will be "Lost and Found."

Christ United Methodist Church

On Sunday, Nov. 24, worship services at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St., are at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Pastor Chris Tiedeman's sermon is from Luke 23:33-43 titled, "Kings Never Die." Check us out at wabashchristumc.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ChristUMC Wabash/.

Dora Christian Church

At the Sunday, Nov. 24 worship services at Dora Christian Church, 2325 S. Salamonie

Dam Road, Lagro, the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. The message for the 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. services will be, "Expressions of Thanksgiving" from I Thessalonians 5:18. The communion table will be served by Scott Hendry and John Troyer. The children's church at the 10:30 a.m. service will be led by Scott Hendry and John Troyer.

First United Methodist Church

On Sunday, Nov. 24, at First United Methodist Church, 110 Cass St., worship services will be at 8 and 10 a.m., with a coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service in the MAC. At the 8 a.m. service, the prelude and postlude will be played by Kathy Geible, and the children's message will be by Pastor Nathan Whybrew. At both the 8 and 10 a.m. services, the call to worship and the scripture reading will be by Pastor John Cook. The scripture will

be Luke 10:1-12. The sermon by Pastor Nathan Whybrew will be, "Free to Be." At the 10 a.m. service, the prelude will be by Kathy Geible, the children's message will be by Sue Gray and the postlude will be by Susan Vandlandingham. Check us out on our website at www.wabashfirstumc.org and Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/wabashfirstumc/.

Wabash Presbyterian Church

On Sunday, Nov. 24, at Wabash Presbyterian Church, 123 W. Hill St., it will be Christ the King Sunday. The worship service starts at 10 a.m. The pastor will be Rev. Jonathan Cornell. The sermon titled, "Building This House," will be based on scripture Matthew 7:24. The lay leader will be Jane Willmert. The prelude will be selections from Bach, "Panis and Angelicus" presented by Ashley Oetken on violin and Tim Spahr on cello, beginning at 9:45 a.m. The offertory will be "Meditation from Thais"

presented by Ashley Oetken on violin. The Presbyterian Brass Ensemble will accompany the hymns. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this time of special music and inspiration.

Walk by Faith

Community Church

At the Sunday, Nov. 24 service at the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school will be at 9 a.m., and the worship and children's worship will be at 10 a.m. The pastor is Greg Wilburn. The youth pastor is Jody Tyner. Our greeters for this Sunday will be Jeff and Kaye Krom and Steve and Tami Johnson. Pastor Jody Tyner will be sharing the message with us. We invite all to come and worship with us. Visit our website at www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Table of thanks

BY JERRY GAUTHIER

Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

November marks an ending to the harvest season as we look at empty fields. A common picture expressing the culmination of this time of year is what we see of the Pilgrims and Native Americans gathered around a table. Such an event in America would later be declared a national holiday. Unlike TV dinner, fast food, or sack lunch, being at the table has a character of fellowship. It is hard to be thankful alone and taking time to come together is reason enough to give thanks in a busy world.

There are tables for business meetings, holiday festivities, and other occasions. All bring people together into some kind of fellowship. God also gathers His people together to give thanks for His loving kindness. A common picture expressing this theme is "The Last Supper" as painted by many different artists over the years. Here is a table of fellowship far outside of what any would expect to see between God and men. This meal came from the hands and voice of Jesus Christ. Fellowship with Him rests upon His Word hiding Himself under bread and wine at a table arranged for us.

An ancient name for the

Lord's Supper is Eucharist and means, "Thanksgiving."

It is more than thanks to God for a good harvest or blessing for this life. The gift from the Father is in His Son. The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meant for giving thanks, because there is Jesus. It is not for being alone or to celebrate occasionally. God designed it to bring His baptized together. St. Paul declares, "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?" (1 Corinthians 10:16-17a).

To participate in Christ is to participate in the thankful confession shared in Him.

God longs to bring us together. His loving Word is the source and norm that does it. We have reasons for fellowship with others at various times of the year, like Thanksgiving, but they come and go. Communion is a fellowship with Christ and His Church for a lifetime. God justifying sinners by the cross is for us to be together at His table. It is to repent and thankfully receive what God's Word and Sacrament deliver for our good. This Table of Thanks is rich and full with all the "fixings" of forgiveness that Jesus provides for us and our salvation.

A surprising hopeful trip to the capital

BY KATHRYN JEAN LOPEZ

I had an overwhelming 48 hours in Washington, D.C. recently – a couple days that flew in the face of the cynicism we tend to feel about the place. Juan, who gave me a hug while he was waiting outside the homeless shelter, was a part of that, and so was Ivanka Trump.

I met Juan on Pennsylvania Avenue as I was about to meet Mrs. Earcylene Beavers, who was profiled in the HBO documentary "Foster." Beavers has taken some 1,000 children into her home in her three decades as a foster mother. Her adult daughter, who helps make that possible, was beside her.

That night, she was going from the National Council for Adoption's annual Hall of Fame event to the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's yearly Angels in Adoption dinner. At the latter, the adorable 8-year-old adopted daughter of an Oklahoma congressman – no wallflower, she – talked me into making a monthly donation to CCAI. The lighted balloon she was sure I would give to her may have played into her conviction that surely I could spare \$5 a month for

the cause of helping children who need homes. The sweet smile on her face reminded me of Juan, whom I had met a few hours earlier. He told me he was just temporarily "down on (his) luck." There but for the grace of God go I – go any of us.

My time in D.C. began with an adoption celebration at the Department of Health and Human Services, highlighting the plight of teenagers who need homes. One described going from foster home to foster home, just waiting for the moment when the rug would be pulled out and there would be another one. Adoption changed everything.

Adoption can change everything, even for a teenager who looks angry all the time – because she is. Wouldn't you be, bounced from home to home? That's the amazing thing about some of these young people: They are beaming with joy and gratitude to have found a home for life, a "forever family," even late in their teen years.

Never being loved in that kind of secure, permanent way – as permanent as anything ever is in this world – can very easily lead to

poverty, crime, addiction, homelessness and suicide. Maybe it was the love from family, even if long ago, that made it possible for Juan to be loving, gracious and hopeful in his current circumstances. He had a plan for that night, and just wanted a little food so he could keep going. He was looking one day, or a few hours, ahead at a time. With a smile. Even in the cold city, where he knew he couldn't sleep on the streets – though I saw many who were. He had a sense of the dignity of every life about him. That's more than we often have in some of our public policy debates.

And so about Ivanka: She came to Google's D.C. headquarters for a conversation on paid family leave I was hosting for the National Review Institute with my friend and colleague Ramesh Ponuru. The family is our national resource. We simply have to do everything we can to help families flourish. And as pro-life advocates, as Ramesh and I both have been our entire careers and maybe lives, this absolutely has to be a priority.

This was the second time I'd heard Ivanka Trump talk

about this issue, and she always emphasizes two things: one, that motherhood is the primary determinant for bankruptcy, and it shouldn't be. And two, that women tend to be unpaid caregivers for elderly parents and sick relatives – not exclusively, but primarily.

We need to be more sensitive to people who are living out their love for their families in real, trying, sacrificial ways. This world can be brutal, and we need to be more tender.

And, goodness, our politics! What more can we do to help make life better for someone else? Maybe it's volunteering in the homeless shelter where Juan was going, or a church ministry feeding the hungry, or visiting the sick, or doing something to help the foster and adoptive families in your community. Do you even know who they are?

May we all work to change the culture even in our daily lives.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book "A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living." She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

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Church Directory

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

Sweetwater Assembly of God, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade).

BAPTIST

Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available.

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm.

Wabash Free Will Baptist Church, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

St. Bernard Catholic Church, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Saturday Mass 5:30pm. Sunday Masses Summer - 8am and 10:30am. Winter - 8am & 11am. Tues. & Thurs. 9am; 8:15am during school year. Weekday Masses: Mon., Wed., Fri. 5:30pm; Tues. & Thurs., 9am. Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:15-5:15pm Saturday or by appointment (260) 563-4750.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Main Street in Lagro. Holy Mass 12:30pm the 1st Sunday of the month except January and February.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Christian Heritage Church, 2776 River Road. (260) 774-3016. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm.

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Sunday School 9am, Worship 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available.

UNBROKEN PROMISES

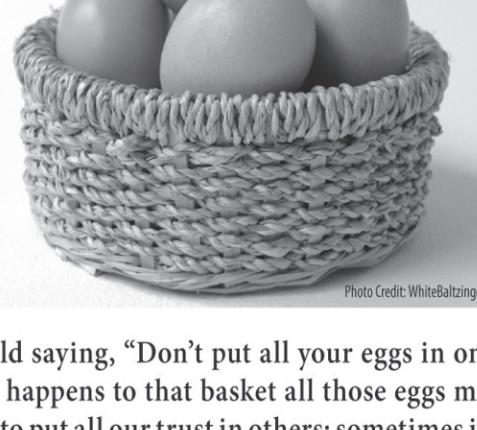


Photo Credit: WhiteBaltzinger

There's an old saying, "Don't put all your eggs in one basket." If something happens to that basket all those eggs might break! It can be difficult to put all our trust in others; sometimes it seems easier to trust only in ourselves. Can we put our confidence in something other than ourselves? God is a safe haven for all our trust; God does not break His promises; His advice is straightforward and sure. It is possible to place our lives in His hands. "God shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings shall you trust; his truth shall be your shield and protection" (Psalm 91:4). Discover more about God at your house of worship. You can put all your eggs in His basket.

Daily Bible Reading

Psalm 18:1-24	Psalm 18:25-50	Psalm 21	Psalm 50	1 Chron. 16:1-7	1 Chron. 16:8-36	1 Chron. 16:37-43
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church of Christ, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.

CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Interim, Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus... Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Wabash Christian Church, 110 W Hill Street. Rev. Haley Asberry, Minister. (260) 563-4179. Worship 9:30am. Sunday School 11am. Nursery provided.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Solomon David, Lead Minister; Michael Eaton, Worship Minister; Ken Goble, Senior Adults Minister; Taylor McSarland, Women's Director; David Diener, Student Minister; Tyler Leland, Children's Minister; Nate Tyler, Youth & Outreach Minister; Ryan Keim, Next Step Minister; Janet Legesse, Early Childhood Director. NOW OFFERING 2 SERVICE TIMES. Adult Bible Fellowship & Worship, 9:15am, 10:45am.

LUTHERAN

Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC), 242 S Huntington St. Wabash IN. Pastor Tom Curry. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 am with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship and a time of fellowship after each service. Wednesday evenings include soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by an informal service at 7:00 pm. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran Church LCMS, 173 Hale Drive. Reverend Gerald Gauthier II. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 9:15am. Morning Worship 10:30am. Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month. Preaching and caring with Christ crucified for you! www.zionwabash.org

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Area calendar

Girls basketball - Manchester at Mississinewa, 7:30 p.m.

Wabash thwarted by Warsaw

Big second and third quarters from Warsaw's girls' basketball on Wednesday fueled the Tigers to a 74-28 win at home against Wabash. Mariah Wyatt led the Apaches with 11 points.

Yale women's soccer coach leaves amid report of misconduct

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Yale University's women's soccer coach has left the school amid allegations of sexual misconduct by former players at a college where he previously coached.

Yale officials said Brendan Faherty's last day was Wednesday, nearly a year after he was hired to replace coach Rudy Meredith following Meredith's arrest in the nationwide college admissions bribery scandal.

Whether Faherty was fired or resigned was not disclosed by Yale. Faherty did not return messages seeking comment Thursday. The student newspaper, the Yale Daily News, reported that former players at the University of New Haven, where Faherty coached from 2002 to 2009, accused him of groping one player and having a consensual relationship with another.

Djokovic wins as Serbia reaches Davis Cup quarterfinals

MADRID (AP) — Novak Djokovic defeated Benoit Paire 6-3, 6-3 to seal Serbia's victory over top-ranked France in the Davis Cup Finals on Thursday.

The result gave Serbia an insurmountable 2-0 lead over the French before the doubles match. Filip Krajinovic had defeated Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 7-5, 7-6 (5) in the first singles to mathematically secure Serbia in the last eight of the revamped team competition.

Djokovic had a break in the first set and two in the second to clinch his 14th straight Davis Cup singles victory.

Submit your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46929.

Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The Plain Dealer reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Mid-game run pushes Norse to win over Panthers

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

MARION — Basketball is often a game of runs and it was single, decisive run by Northfield's girls' team that proved to be the difference at Eastbrook Wednesday night.

Trailing 11-6 just past the midway point of the second quarter, the Norseman outscored the Panthers 10-2 over the final 3:45 of the first half then started the third quarter by scoring the first nine points en route to earning a 43-32 win.

Both teams started sluggishly on offense, connecting on just 3-of-13 field goal attempts and combining to commit nine turnovers through the first eight minutes as the opening period ended tied at 4-4.

Eastbrook's Brianna Stepp and Northfield's Addy Rosen traded two-point buckets in the first two minutes of the second period before a basket by Johwen McKim and a 3-pointer from Kristin Goff staked the Panthers to their 11-6 lead.

It would nearly eight minutes before the Panthers scored another field goal and Norse junior Emma Hoover took over from there.

Hoover knocked down a triple to get Northfield off and running before a pair of free throws by Lexi Binkerd capped the first-half scoring for Eastbrook and left the Panthers leading 13-9 with 3:33 to play.

But Hoover converted a three-point play the hard way, made another two-point shot to give the Norse the lead at 14-13 and knocked down two free throws to send the visitors to the half.



SCOTT HUNT/Chronicle-Tribune

BASKETBALL: Northfield's Emma Hoover rises up for a layup during Wednesday's game at Eastbrook.

See NORSE / Page B2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 2 Ohio St. hosts No. 9 Penn St. looking to wrap up Big Ten East

BY ERIC OLSON
AP College Football Writer

What to watch in the Big Ten this week:

GAME OF THE WEEK

No. 9 Penn State (9-1, 6-1 Big Ten, No. 8 CFP) at No. 2 Ohio State (10-0, 7-0, No. 2 CFP)

The East Division race probably comes down to this. Ohio State clinches a spot in the conference championship game Dec. 7 with a win. If Penn State wins, it would only need to beat last-place Rutgers at home next week to reach the title game for the first time

since 2016. Ohio State has beaten each of its first 10 opponents by no fewer than 24 points but is playing a top-10 opponent for the first time. The Buckeyes have won two straight one-point games against Penn State, and the last three meetings have been decided by a total of five points.

BEST MATCHUP

Indiana pass offense vs. Michigan pass defense

The Hoosiers (7-3, 4-3) are the only Big Ten team averaging more than 300 yards passing, and Peyton Ramsey is coming off a ca-

reer-high 371-yard passing day in a seven-point loss at Penn State. Indiana could be without Whop Philyor, who is second in the Big Ten with 61 catches. He was in the concussion protocol after taking two helmet-to-helmet hits on the same play last week. Cornerbacks LaVert Hill and Ambry Thomas have combined for six interceptions and 10 pass breakups for No. 12 Michigan (8-2, 5-2, No. 13 CFP).

FACTS AND FIGURES

Penn State is playing a Top 25 opponent for the fifth time in six games, making this its most difficult stretch

of games since the Associated Press poll began in 1936. Ohio State is facing its third Top 25 opponent.... Iowa's Keith Duncan leads the country with an single-season school record 23 field goals. His 86.5% success rate is best among Iowa kickers with at least 30 attempts.... No. 11 Minnesota (6-1 Big Ten, No. 10) would be 10-1 for the first time since 1905 if it wins at Northwestern (2-8, 0-7). ... DE Joe Gaziano needs half a sack to tie the Northwestern career record of 28.... Rutgers (2-8, 0-7) enters its

See OHIO / Page B2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ruhland overcomes injuries to play final year for Irish

BY TOM COYNE
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND — Trevor Ruhland expected to be Notre Dame's starting center this season, right up until the medical staff told him in January his left knee is like that of an 80-year-old man and he probably shouldn't play football anymore.

Bear in mind that Ruhland had endured a broken ankle, a broken elbow, a broken nose, torn pectoral muscles on both sides of his chest and a torn labrum in his right shoulder during his first four years at Notre Dame. Three surgeries on that knee had the Notre Dame training staff questioning if he could even make it through summer workouts after sitting out spring drills. There was a belief the knee needed to be replaced.

"Trevor Ruhland could have easily taken a pass on this and said, 'I'm out,'" coach Brian Kelly said. "We thought he was going to be a medical redshirt, quite frankly. We thought that there was no way. But he wanted to play in his senior year. It was important to him."

Kelly said earlier this season he'd likely have to keep Ruhland on a "pitch count" because of his health, but Ruhland was in for 93 plays against Virginia Tech three weeks ago, including quarterback Ian Book's 7-yard TD run with 29 seconds left to give the Irish a 21-20 victory. He played 40 plays in the 52-20 victory last week over Navy before the coaches sat him in the third quarter.

As a freshman, Ruhland boasted he could do more than two dozen reps of 225 pounds on the bench press. Now, he wouldn't even try one.

"I'm in a maintain program in the weight room," he said. "I don't test it."

Ruhland said his mother and father, Matt, an all-Big Ten defensive tackle at Iowa who played for the Buffalo Bills, have differing views on what he's been through.

"My mom thinks I'm crazy. My dad thinks I'm soft," Ruhland said, laughing.

The 6-foot-3, 292-pound graduate student from Cary, Illinois, northwest

See IRISH / Page B2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Big Ten Spotlight: West Division coaches in long-term deals

BY KEITH JENKINS
AP Sports Writer

Scott Frost received a two-year contract extension that will keep him at Nebraska through 2026.

The university announced the extension on Saturday before Frost and the Cornhuskers took the field against Wisconsin.

"I'm grateful," Frost said. "This is where I want to be. People in Nebraska know me pretty well and I'm a fighter and I'm not going to quit until this is right."

Frost is now 8-14 at Nebraska after a 37-21 loss to the then-15th-ranked Badgers. For comparison's sake, Willie Taggart, who was named Florida State's coach three days after Frost was hired in Lincoln, went

9-12 in Tallahassee before getting fired.

Despite the slow start, Frost, who played quarterback at Nebraska and led the Cornhuskers to a 13-0 season in 1997, still has the support of his administration and his players.

"I think Coach Frost deserves it and he is going to get this thing right," said Nebraska sophomore quarterback Adrian Martinez. "Ultimately, it is going to be up to us as the players to go out there and execute. I am excited for him. I think it is a good thing for Nebraska football and we are going to continue to build this thing."

Nebraska's support of Frost is a trend in the Big Ten West. With Frost's ex-

tension, all the division's coaches are under contract for a lengthy number of years.

Minnesota's P.J. Fleck this month was extended through 2026. Fleck has the 11th-ranked Golden Gophers (9-1, 6-1 Big Ten, 10th in College Football Playoff) in the midst of their best season in decades. The Fleck and Frost extensions were done before the December letter of intent signing date, showing support in case prospective recruits are wondering if the guy they choose to sign with is going to be around.

Northwestern's Pat Fitzgerald in April 2017 signed a 10-year extension through 2026, while

signed an extension in September 2016 to remain at Iowa through 2026.

Purdue in April gave Jeff Brohm a new seven-year contract through 2025 after Louisville showed interest in him. Illinois in November 2018 gave Lovie Smith a two-year extension through 2023. That move has proven to be the right one, as Smith has the Fighting Illini sitting at 6-4 (4-3 Big Ten) with wins over Wisconsin and Michigan State.

Paul Chryst played quarterback at Wisconsin in the late 1980s and returned as an assistant under then-coach Barry Alvarez. Alvarez, now the school's athletic director, gave Chryst a one-year extension last January. Chryst is under con-

tract in Madison through Jan. 31, 2024.

"I've always felt privileged to be working for Barry," Chryst said. "And then you put that combination (of) working for Coach Alvarez at this university, it means a ton. When I had an opportunity and got hired as an assistant, I felt that was enough. I still feel that same way."

Like Frost, Chryst has earned the trust and respect of his players.

"He really knows his players," star running back Jonathan Taylor said of Chryst. "He does a good job of trying to put them in a position to help them grow."

The contract extensions

See COACHES / Page B2

SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	1	0	.900	287	108
Buffalo	7	3	0	.700	211	170
N.Y. Jets	3	7	0	.300	164	255
Miami	2	0	0	.200	139	305
South						
Indianapolis	6	4	0	.600	227	206
Houston	6	4	0	.600	245	232
Tennessee	5	5	0	.500	203	197
Jacksonville	4	6	0	.400	189	222
North						
Baltimore	8	2	0	.800	341	196
Pittsburgh	5	5	0	.500	200	202
Cleveland	4	6	0	.400	192	228
Cincinnati	0	10	0	.000	147	276
West						
Kansas City	7	4	0	.636	308	256
Oakland	6	4	0	.600	225	250
L.A. Chargers	4	7	0	.364	224	218
Denver	3	7	0	.300	172	197

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	6	4	0	.600	286	197
Philadelphia	5	5	0	.500	234	230
N.Y. Giants	2	8	0	.200	203	289
Washington	1	9	0	.100	125	253
South						
New Orleans	8	2	0	.800	238	199
Carolina	5	5	0	.500	228	257
Atlanta	3	7	0	.300	220	262
Tampa Bay	3	7	0	.300	277	313
North						
Green Bay	8	2	0	.800	250	204
Minnesota	8	3	0	.727	289	205
Chicago	4	6	0	.400	169	174
Detroit	3	6	1	.350	244	272
West						
San Francisco	9	1	0	.900	295	155
Seattle	8	2	0	.800	275	254
L.A. Rams	6	4	0	.600	243	198
Arizona	3	7	1	.318	248	317

Thursday's Game

Indianapolis at Houston

Sunday's Games

Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.

Miami at Cleveland, 1 p.m.

Seattle at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.

N.Y. Giants at Chicago, 1 p.m.

Carolina at New Orleans, 1 p.m.

Denver at Buffalo, 1 p.m.

Detroit at Washington, 1 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.

Jacksonville at Tennessee, 4:05 p.m.

Dallas at New England, 4:25 p.m.

Green Bay at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.

Open: Arizona, Minnesota, Kansas City,

L.A. Chargers

Monday's Game

Baltimore at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AP Top 25 Schedule

Saturday, Nov. 23

No. 1 LSU vs. Arkansas, 7 p.m.
No. 2 Ohio State vs. No. 9 Penn State, Noon
No. 4 Georgia vs. No. 24 Texas A&M, 3:30 p.m.
No. 5 Alabama vs. Western Carolina, Noon
No. 6 Oregon at Arizona State, 7:30 p.m.
No. 7 Utah at Arizona, 10 p.m.
No. 8 Oklahoma vs. TCU, 8 p.m.
No. 11 Minnesota at Northwestern, Noon
No. 12 Michigan at Indiana, 3:30 p.m.
No. 13 Baylor vs. Texas, 3:30 p.m.
No. 14 Wisconsin vs. Purdue, 4 p.m.
No. 15 Notre Dame vs. Boston College, 2:30 p.m.
No. 16 Auburn vs. Samford, Noon
No. 17 Cincinnati vs. Temple, 7 p.m.
No. 18 Memphis at South Florida, 4 p.m.
No. 19 Iowa vs. Illinois, Noon
No. 20 Boise State at Utah State, 10:30 p.m.
No. 21 SMU at Navy, 3:30 p.m.
No. 22 Oklahoma State at West Virginia, Noon
No. 23 Appalachian State vs. Texas State, 2:30 p.m.
No. 25 Virginia Tech vs. Pittsburgh, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Game

Baltimore at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m.

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No. 12 Michigan at

NFL

Garrett's suspension for helmet attack upheld

BY TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — Myles Garrett's goal was to be NFL's top defensive player this season. He won't finish it.

Garrett's indefinite suspension for smashing Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Mason Rudolph over the head with a helmet was upheld Thursday by an appeals officer who decided the severe penalty on the Cleveland Browns star defensive end is fair.

One of the league's most dominant edge rushers, Garrett is banned for the final six regular-season games and playoffs — if Cleveland qualifies — for pulling off

Rudolph's helmet and cracking him with it in the closing seconds of the Browns' 21-7 win over their AFC North rival last week.

On Wednesday, Garrett attended his appeals hearing in New York and made his case to former player James Thrash for a reduction of his penalty, which will damage Cleveland's season and stain the 24-year-old's budding career.

Thrash didn't find enough compelling evidence to lessen Garrett's punishment, which will keep him off the field until 2020 — at the earliest.

As part of his historic suspension for using his helmet "as a weapon," Garrett must

also meet with Commissioner Roger Goodell's office before he can be reinstated. He's been fined \$45,623.

Appeals officer Derrick Brooks, a Pro Football Hall of Fame linebacker, did reduce the suspension for Steelers center Maurkice Pouncey from three games to two for punching and kicking Garrett following the shocking assault on Rudolph, who earlier this week said he "should have done a better job keeping my composure in that situation."

Brooks also upheld a \$35,096 fine for Pouncey, who will miss the Steelers' rematch with the Browns on Dec. 1 at Heinz Field, where the atmosphere is intense for

every game between Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

Garrett's violent act — he pulled Rudolph's helmet off and clobbered him with it — on national TV and its aftermath have been a dominant topic since it happened. The story took a new twist when ESPN, using anonymous sources, first reported that Garrett told the league during his meeting with Thrash that Rudolph used a racial slur just before the brawl erupted.

Steelers spokesman Burt Lauten said Rudolph "vehemently denies" the report. Rudolph had been scheduled to speak to reporters after practice but declined shortly after the report surfaced.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said the league investigated Garrett's claim and "found no such evidence."

Garrett will lose \$1.14 million in salary and his absence is a significant setback to the Browns (4-6), who will be without their best defensive player as they try to end a postseason drought dating to 2002.

The suspension is the longest issued for a single on-field behavior. Tennessee defensive lineman Albert Haynesworth was suspended five games in 2006 for stomping on the face Cowboys center Andre Gurode in 2006.

Garrett's stunning behav-

ior was out of character for the soft-spoken Pro Bowler who likes to write poetry.

His teammates were shocked by what happened, and several wondered if Rudolph, who avoided suspension but will be fined, did something to trigger the outburst.

"Whatever the actions were, this is a guy I've never seen anything like that," wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. said moments before Thrash's decision was announced. "Who knows? You don't know whatever evidence and things they find. I'm just praying there's a resolution for him. He's a very good dude and we all miss him."

SNOWBOARDING

Snowboarding visionary Jake Burton Carpenter dies at 65

BY EDDIE PELLS

AP National Writer

Whether you had a gold medal hanging from your neck, were just learning how to stand on a snowboard, or were one of those flustered skiers wondering where all the kids in the baggy pants were coming from, you knew the name "Burton."

Jake Burton Carpenter, the man who changed the game on the mountain by fulfilling a grand vision of what a snowboard could be, died Wednesday night of complications stemming from a relapse of testicular cancer. He was 65.

In an email sent to the staff at Burton, CEO John Lacy called Burton "our founder, the soul of snowboarding, the one who gave us the sport we love so much."

Carpenter was not the inventor of the snowboard, but 12 years after Sherman Poppen tied together a pair of skis with a rope to create what was then called a "Snurfer," the 23-year-old entrepreneur, then known only as Jake Burton, quit his job in Manhattan, moved back to Vermont and went about dreaming of how far a snowboard might take him.

"I had a vision there was a sport there, that it was more than just a sledging thing, which is all it was then," Burton said in a 2010 interview with The Associated Press.

For years, Burton's snowboards were largely snubbed at resorts — its dimensions too untested, its riders too unrefined, its danger all too real — and many wouldn't allow them to share the slopes with the cultured ski elite in Colorado or California or, heaven forbid, the Swiss Alps.

But those riders were a force of nature. And for all their risk-taking, rule-breaking, sidewinding trips down the mountain, they spent money, too. Throughout the last decade, snowboarders have accounted for more than 25 percent of visitors to mountain resorts in the United States. They have bankrolled a business worth more than \$1 billion annually — a big chunk of which is spent on Burton gear.

"People take it for granted now," said Pat Bridges, a longtime writer

for Snowboarding Magazine, who has followed the industry for decades. "They don't even realize that the name 'Burton' isn't a company. It's a person. Obviously, it's the biggest brand in snowboarding. The man himself is even bigger."

In 1998, and with Carpenter's tacit blessing, the Olympics got in on the act, in hopes of injecting some youth into an older-skewing program filled with ski jumpers, bobsledders, figure skaters and hockey players.

As the years passed, Carpenter straddled the delicate line between the "lifestyle sport" he'd helped create — one that professed to value fun over winning, losing, money or Olympic medals — and the mass-marketing behemoth snowboarding was fast becoming.

"He saw himself as a steward to snowboarding," Bridges said. "I'm not saying he was infallible, or that he always made the right choices. But at least that was always part of his calculus: 'What impact is this decision going to have on snowboarding?'"

Though Burton is a private company that does not release financials, its annual sales were north of \$500 million as of 2015.

In addition to the hundreds of retail stores that sell the company's merchandise, Burton has 30 flagship shops in America and 11 more spread across Europe and Asia — a burgeoning market that Carpenter started developing a decade ago, during a time when the IOC was beginning the process of awarding three straight Winter Games to the continent.

At a bar in Pyeongchang, South Korea, not far from where snowboarding celebrated its 20th anniversary at the Olympics last year, there was a wall filled with Burton pictures and memorabilia — as sure a sign as any of the global reach of a company that remains headquartered not far from where it was founded in Carpenter's garage, in Londonderry, Vermont.

For all his financial success, folks were always more likely to run into Carpenter wearing a snowsuit than a sportscoat. He was a fan of early morning backcountry rides, and he

had to stay in good shape to keep up with some of the company he rode with.

Burton sponsored pretty much every big name in the business at one time or another — from Seth Wescott to Shaun White, from Kelly Clark to Chloe Kim.

Indeed, it is virtually impossible to avoid the name "Burton" once the snow starts falling at any given mountain around the world these days. The name is plastered on the bottoms of snowboards, embroidered on jackets, stenciled into bindings and omnipresent in the shops around the villages.

The Burton U.S. Open, held each winter in Vail on a rider-friendly half-pipe traditionally recognized as the best on the circuit, remains a signature event on the snowboarding calendar.

"I had no clue whatsoever that you'd be building parks and halfpipes and that kind of thing," Burton said in his 2010 interview, when asked about the reach his modest little snowboard had had over the decades. "We're doing something that's going to last here. It's not like just hitting the lottery one day."

His final years were not the easiest.

Not long after being given a clean bill of health following his 2011 cancer diagnosis, Carpenter was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease, Miller Fisher Syndrome, that left him completely paralyzed for a short time.

After a long rehab, he was back on the mountain, and in 2018, he was standing near the finish line to watch White win his third Olympic gold medal.

This month, Carpenter sent an email to his staff: "You will not believe this, but my cancer has come back," he said, while outlining his intention to fight the good fight.

Not two weeks later, Lacy sent out another email, notifying employees that Jake had died peacefully. The email included one, simple directive.

"I'd encourage everyone to do what Jake would be doing tomorrow, and that's riding," Lacy wrote. "It's opening day at Stowe, so consider taking some turns together, in celebration of Jake."

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Baseball Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Major League Baseball has widened its investigation of alleged sign stealing by the Houston Astros and will probe activity by the team over the past three seasons.

After the conclusion of owners meetings Thursday, baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said MLB will "investigate the Astros situation as thoroughly as humanly possible." The probe includes the team's firing of an assistant general manager during the World Series for clubhouse comments directed at female reporters, behavior the club at first accused Sports Illustrated of fabricating.

"That investigation is going to encompass not only what we know about '17, but also '18 and '19," Manfred said. "To the extent we are talking to people all over the industry, former employees, competitors, whatever, to the extent that we find other leads, we're going to follow these leads."

Manfred has said for now the Astros are the only team being investigated for cheating allegations.

"Our clubs, all 30 of them, recognize that the integrity of the competition on the field is crucial to what we do every day," he said. "I think that there's wide support across the industry for the idea that when we have a problem in this area, there should be firm, serious disciplinary action that discourages people from engaging in this type of behavior."

Oakland pitcher Mike Fiers told The Athletic in a story last week that while he was playing with the Astros during their 2017 World Series championship season the team stole signs during home games by using a camera positioned in center field. During this year's playoffs, Houston players were suspected of whistling in the dugout to communicate pitch selection to batters.

Asked if he wished more had been done before Fiers spoke out publicly, Manfred said baseball has chased every lead it has received to the "extent that we felt was investigatively possible."

"Obviously, an individual breaking what is a pretty firm commitment to silence about what goes on in dugouts and in clubhouses is a big break in an investigation, provides an opportunity to push forward that we haven't had previously," Manfred said.

Manfred fined the Boston Red Sox in September 2017 for using an Apple Watch to steal signals from New York Yankees catchers.

"It's a challenge for our sport and all sports to regulate the use of that technology in a way that makes sure that we have integrity in our play," he said.

When the Red Sox were fined, only weeks before the

Astros won their first World Series title, Manfred said all 30 clubs were notified that future violations would be subject to more serious sanctions, including the possible loss of draft picks.

"I wrote what I wrote because I did not believe that the discipline that have been handed out in the past were in line with the significance of the issues that we deal dealing with," he said. "I viewed them with a particular level of seriousness."

As whether he felt that was sufficient and his message received, Manfred responded: "Well, we know at least one instance it probably wasn't needed."

Astros owner Jim Crane declined comment on the allegations when he was seen in the hotel lobby Wednesday, and Manfred declined to discuss their conversations this week.

LABOR

While MLB and the players' association decided to start labor talks more than two years before their contract expires in December 2021, negotiations with union head Tony Clark and top lawyer Bruce Meyer have not progressed.

"Mr. Meyer suggested a series of changes that would turn the Basic Agreement back 50 years, I mean essentially give back to the union everything we've achieved over the last few decades," Manfred said. "I asked in response to his suggestion what was in that deal for the clubs? And he said labor peace. ... I said to him labor peace is a mutual benefit. It's not something that you trade economics against. ... It keeps the players working and getting paid, and it keeps our business going forward."

MINOR LEAGUES

Manfred detailed how MLB arrived at its initial proposal to drop 42 minor league teams from their current circuits for the 2021 season as part of a new Professional Baseball Agreement with the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues.

"We have facilities and I can show you pictures if you want to see. OK, that are simply not appropriate for professional baseball players: inadequate showers, tiny locker rooms, no place for players to eat, no place for players to work out," Manfred said.

He maintained minor league franchise moves "produce travel that is not acceptable for professional players, bus rides, long, six, eight, 10 hours."

MLB wants fewer prospects and higher salaries and "suggested to them that maybe we were drafting and signing players who don't have a realistic opportunity to become major leaguers." He claimed minor league negotiators said the problems were MLB's to solve."

OLYMPICS

Top Russian track official suspended in obstruction case

MONACO (AP) — The president of Russia's track and field federation and its top anti-doping official were suspended Thursday on suspicion of obstructing an investigation, in a blow to Russia's preparations for the 2020 Olympics.

The Athletics Integrity Unit, which oversees disciplinary issues in track, charged Dmitry Shlyakhtin and six others with various offenses.

They are related to the case of a top high jumper, Danil Lysenko, who allegedly presented fake medical records after being accused of failing to make himself available for drug testing.

The federation as a whole is facing charges, as are Shlyakhtin and four of its senior officials, including the federation's anti-doping coordinator Elena Ikonnikova. Lysenko and his coach Evgeny Zagorulko have also been charged.

Federation spokeswoman

Nataliya Yakhreva told The Associated Press that Shlyakhtin and the federation have a deadline of Dec. 12 to respond to the charges. No date has been set for a hearing.

"We need quite a lot of time for the lawyers to study it," Yakhreva said, adding that Shlyakhtin "intends to protect his good name."

She added that Shlyakhtin would step down while president and the federation board would soon elect a temporary replacement.

Shlyakhtin doubles as a regional sports minister in Russia, and it wasn't immediately clear whether he would keep that role.

The AIU said its investigation lasted 15 months and included intensive interviews and computer analysis.

It concluded that "officials had been involved in the provision of false explanations and forged documents to the AIU in order to

explain whereabouts failures by the athlete."

In September, a World Athletics taskforce said Lysenko had confessed to providing fake documents with help from officials, but he later retracted that confession.

The case comes at a time when Russia is already facing separate allegations of providing doctored lab test records to the World Anti-Doping Agency, which could implement more sanctions next month.

Russia's track federation was already officially suspended from international competition over earlier doping cases under a 2015 ruling.

The federation had been inching closer to reinstatement this year after negotiations headed by Shlyakhtin, but World Athletics officials expressed concern that anti-doping reforms weren't always being implemented on the ground.

The announcement comes the day before a council meeting of World Athletics, formerly known as the IAAF, which governs international track and field.

Russian athletes have been allowed to compete as neutrals at events like the world championships after passing vetting of their drug-testing history.

One of the suspended officials is Elena Orlova, who served as the de facto manager for the Russian athletes at the world championships in September and October, where they won six medals.

The others include executive director Alexander Parkin and board member Artur Karamyan.

Zagorulko is widely seen as one of the greatest high jump coaches of all time and has worked with five different Olympic gold medalists dating back to the Soviet era. Lysenko is the reigning world indoor champion.

Weary wife is ready to leave unfulfilling marriage

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 24 years and have two daughters, 18 and 14. I'm in a business with my husband and work six days a week. We don't take vacations, go on date nights or spend time together outside of work.

I have had my own bedroom for 15 years because he needs his sleep (he is 15 years older). Our sex life ended two years ago because he says

I'm too heavy. (I should lose 40 pounds and so could he.) I do my best to take care of dentist and doctor appointments for the kids, cook healthy meals, prepare for the holidays, drive school carpool, etc.

I feel unappreciated, taken for granted and trapped. He complains that I'm not giving him attention, but then he'll comment on my appearance or criticize me for small tasks that I didn't do "his" way.

I'm tired and overworked. Is it wrong to want to divorce him and be free of this loveless marriage? I cannot picture living this boring, unfulfilling life for the next five or 10 years. I have fantasized about a life without him every single day for the last year.

I don't claim to be perfect — I'm patient and easygoing to a fault. But he has had two affairs and blames me for them. I have been here for the business and the kids, but what about me? I have been going to night school to take up nursing as a new career to support myself as a backup plan.

I know what I need to do, but I guess I'm looking for validation. There's got to be more to life than what I'm living. — Fed Up In Michigan

DEAR FED UP: I agree. That you think you will be happier apart from a spouse who deprives you of companionship and affection, cheats, blames you for it and criticizes you regularly is understandable. Under these circumstances, your feelings are valid. However, before making any announcements, schedule an appointment with an attorney who can guide you in what steps to take to protect yourself.

DEAR ABBY: "Cheryl" has been one of my best friends for a very long time. She has helped me through many issues and even some depression over the years, as I have done for her. We live several states apart and talk on a daily basis. Neither of us is dating now, although we both use dating apps and websites.

Lately, Cheryl has been asking me to help her sort through her messages. It has become torture for me because I have begun having romantic feelings for her. I don't know if it would be fair to tell her how I feel about her because of the geographical distance. I know she won't move to be with me because she helps to take care of her father, who lives with her.

I wouldn't have an issue with moving there, but I don't want to make that decision unless I know her feelings are similar. I also don't want to risk losing a friend. I'm not sure if I should just bury these feelings and say nothing, or let her know. Please help. — Conflicted In Tennessee

DEAR CONFLICTED: The first thing you should tell your friend is that you are not comfortable sorting through her messages. When she asks you why, explain that after these many years of best friendship, you have begun to develop romantic feelings for her. How she reacts will help you to determine what — if anything — to do next. Right now, you are in limbo. She may or may not reciprocate your feelings. But if she doesn't, you will be emotionally free to find love elsewhere.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

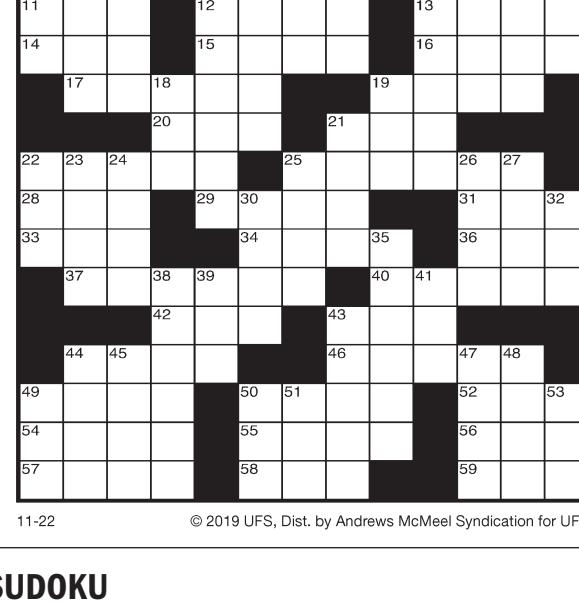
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Big primate 42 Yak
- 4 Candied item 43 Drivers' org.
- 7 — A to Z 44 Jellystone bear
- 11 Decay 46 Chip maker
- 12 Popular beverage 49 "Friends" friend
- 13 Engineering toy 50 Wynonna or Naomi
- 14 Small hotel 54 Woody's son
- 15 Excess publicity 55 "Mister Ed" actor
- 16 Bakery fixture 56 Outback bird
- 17 Lout 57 Laborer
- 19 Flexible tube 58 Handful of cotton
- 20 Sub letters 59 Collar
- 21 Container
- 22 Angry
- 25 Maiden
- 28 Nearest star
- 29 DEA operative
- 31 — Alamos
- 33 Denver hrs.
- 34 Libertine
- 36 Fr. holy woman
- 37 Laugh rudely
- 40 Capital of Tibet

DOWN

- 1 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
- 2 Polo need
- 3 Vulcan's forge
- 4 Seesaws (hyph.)
- 5 Zurich peak
- 6 Novelist Rita — Brown
- 7 Bowls over
- 8 Guns
- 9 Ess molding
- 10 Jamaican gent
- 12 Selected
- 18 Rough shelter
- 19 Emoter
- 21 Hoist a car
- 22 Suffix for hero
- 23 Send overnight
- 24 Feed the kitty
- 25 Attract
- 26 Joy
- 27 Building sites
- 30 Graceful steed
- 32 Neptune's realm
- 35 Veld grazers
- 38 Incites (2 wds.)
- 39 Yes, in Yokohama
- 41 Cap
- 43 Assisted
- 44 Time past
- 45 European capital
- 47 Tied
- 48 Monk
- 49 Quick blow
- 50 Yak
- 51 Ms. Thurman
- 53 Butter container



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Answer to Previous Puzzle



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BEETLE BAILEY



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BLONDIE



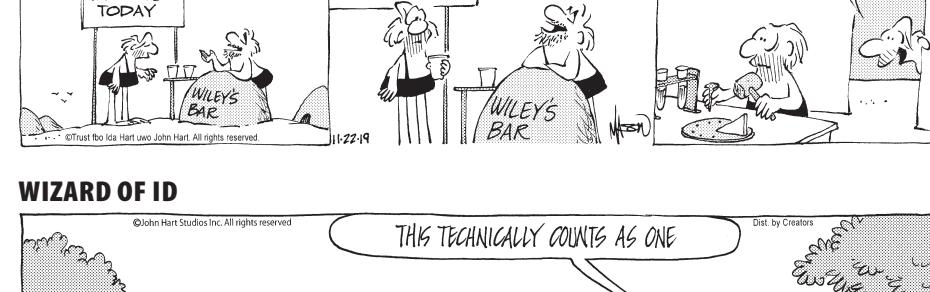
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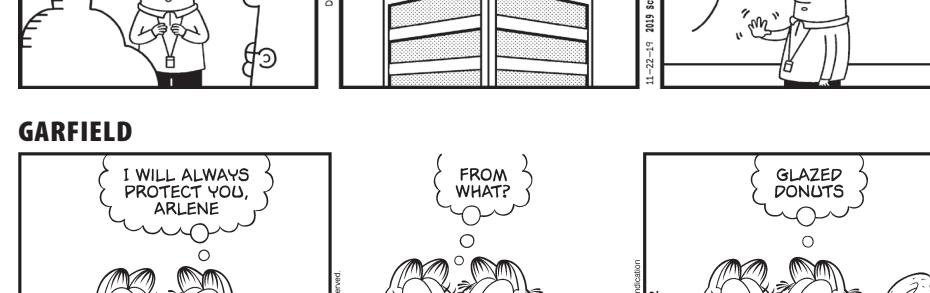
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PICKLES



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Teens in America have some big problems facing them

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: There are so many deep-rooted problems that plague young people today. I am a youth pastor

and I want to relate to teenagers in an effective way.

Should I tackle sexual topics first, since

that seems to be the greatest of all the

problems, or is it drug abuse?

T.A.

A: It's stunning to learn that many sociologists claim the greatest problem facing young people is not sex -- it is boredom!

Teens in America have some big problems facing them. They are faced with perhaps the greatest problems in modern history, living with the constant threat of cultural wars, terrorism, nuclear war, and worse -- war that rages within the human heart. It seems that

the devil has the world in a great big bowl and he's stirring it up with a big stick!

Teens are desperately searching for purpose and meaning. Today young people want to get behind a cause.

They want to do something fulfilling; something that says

their lives make a difference.

Kids of all ages are maturing faster physically than they are mentally and emotionally. When they finish college, many flounder, overwhelmed with choices and confined by their fears. Naturally, they turn to gadgets and amusements,

— T.A.

Billy Graham
My Answer

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Iraqi officials: 3 more protesters killed in central Baghdad

BY SAMYA KULLAB
and MURTADA FARAJ
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Three people died and 24 were wounded in renewed clashes in central Baghdad between anti-government demonstrators and security forces, bringing the death toll for the day to seven, Iraqi security and hospital officials said Thursday.

The clashes, the deadliest in recent days, erupted on the capital's Rasheed Street, a cultural center known for its old crumbling buildings. Security forces fired live am-

munition, tear gas and sound bombs to disperse dozens of protesters.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Two protesters were killed when tear gas canisters struck them and one was killed by live ammunition. The clashes took place on the street near Ahrar Bridge, the officials say.

Earlier, four protesters were killed in fighting near Ahrar and Sinak bridges. One protester was killed when security forces used

live rounds to repel demonstrators on Ahrar Bridge. The other protester was killed when a tear gas cannister was fired on Sinak Bridge, hitting him in the head.

Two protesters later succumbed to their injuries.

Protesters have been occupying parts of Baghdad's three main bridges — Sinak and Ahrar and Jumurhiya — leading to the heavily fortified Green Zone, the seat of Iraq's government.

Fighting also resumed overnight in the Shiite holy city of Karbala, south of

Baghdad, between protesters and security forces.

Tents have been set up under the bridges and also on central Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the protest movement, where first-aid volunteers treat those wounded by pieces of exploded tear gas cannisters and live fire.

"Around 1:30 a.m., the shooting started with live ammunition, tear gas and sound grenades," said one volunteer, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of government reprisal.

"There were martyrs and we received several injured" people with breathing difficulties and bullet wounds.

In Karbala, the protesters threw crudely made fire bombs, also known as Molotov cocktails, at security forces while anti-riot police responded by throwing stones at the protesters.

Dozens of demonstrators had attacked the Iranian Consulate in this city earlier in November, scaling concrete barriers and saying they rejected the influence of the neighboring country in

Iraqi affairs.

At least 320 protesters have been killed and thousands have been wounded since the unrest began on Oct. 1, when demonstrators took to the streets in Baghdad and across Iraq's mainly Shiite south to decry rampant government corruption and lack of basic services despite Iraq's oil wealth.

The leaderless movement seeks to dismantle the sectarian system and unseat the government, including Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi.

Southern Africa's deadly drought leaving millions hungry

BY MOGOMOTSI MAGOME
Associated Press

VOSBURG, South Africa — Residents call this drought-stricken community a "forgotten town."

The flat, dusty roads to Vosburg are surrounded by withered fields. The streams feeding the community of a few thousand people have gone dry. Signs warn drivers of wandering cattle and sheep but there are none in sight. The months-long drought is affecting most of southern Africa. The United Nations estimates that more than 11 million people now face crisis levels of food insecurity in places like Zimbabwe and Mozambique, where two cyclones wiped out crops earlier this year.

Among the hardest hit areas is South Africa's Northern Cape province, where many farmers are struggling to keep their families and animals alive while revenue falls and debt piles up.

Commercial sheep farmer Louis van der Merwe, 64, broke down as he described losing more than 400 sheep and 450 springboks in the past two years because of the worst drought he has seen in 45 years of farming.

Some animals died of hunger. Others were sent prematurely to the slaughterhouse to reduce the number to feed. With tears running down his face, Van der Merwe said he now relies on donations of animal feed so the rest can survive.

"If we didn't have hope, we would not be here anymore," he said. "We have to have hope and faith. There are a couple of times when we have felt it is not worth it."

Two of his fellow farmers have killed themselves due to the stress, Van der Merwe said.

Northern Cape province will need over \$28 million in drought relief over the next three months to assist 15,500 affected farms, according to farmers' organization Agri-SA.

So far, South Africa's government has pledged \$2 million.

The World Food Program says southern Africa has received normal rainfall in just one of the past five growing seasons, with small-scale farmers feeling it most.

Some like 55-year-old Gertrudia Buffel, have resorted to sharing their own food with their animals.

For two weeks she had fed two tiny lambs a mixture of maize meal and water after their mother starved to death. When The Associated Press arrived at her home, she had just learned that one had died.

"It must have died because it has only been eating the maize meal mixture. It is not their natural diet," Buffel said.

Small children are hungry, too.

At Vosburg's only school, Delta Primary School, scores of children line up every morning for what becomes both breakfast and lunch: usually corn meal, vegetables and soup.

While the school food program began before the drought, teachers say it has become increasingly vital for the town's struggling families.

"It's very hard for the parents to actually feed their children at home," said one teacher, Xolile Ngxathu.

In the regional center of Kimberley a few hours' drive away, government officials spend their days trying to allocate money from the \$2 million provincial disaster relief fund. It is a daunting task as some farmers in far-flung areas cannot be reached easily.

Farmers Jan Louw, 65, and Martiens Tieties, 67, are among those relying on government-sponsored animal feed but are not expecting their next rations until January.

Until then, they rely on commercial farmers sharing feed to keep their few livestock alive.

The Rev. Jaco Heymans with the Dutch Reformed Church has been offering spiritual counselling to many farmers and farm workers in Vosburg.

"The drought is having devastating impact on the people emotionally and spiritually because financially, all is almost lost," Heymans said.

"Many people have already cancelled their insurance policies and their medical aid in order to just survive. Primary concern is to keep the animals alive, so everything that is spared goes into feeding sheep."

It is unclear how many

Pope in Thailand calls for action to protect women, children

BY NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

BANGKOK — Pope Francis called Thursday for women and children to be protected from exploitation, abuse and enslavement as he began a busy two days of meetings in Thailand, where human trafficking and forced prostitution help fuel the sexual tourism industry.

Francis pleaded for action against one of the region's greatest scourges at the start of his weeklong visit to Asia.

He praised the Thai government's efforts to fight human trafficking in a speech delivered at host Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-o-cha's Government House offices. But he appealed for greater international commitment to protect women and children "who are violated and exposed to every form of exploitation, enslavement, violence and abuse."

He called for ways to "uproot this evil and to provide ways to restore their dignity."

"The future of our peoples is linked in large measure to the way we will ensure a dignified future to our children," he said.

The United Nations con-

siders Thailand a key trafficking destination as well as a source of forced labor and sex slaves, who are trafficked at home or abroad. The U.N. drug and crime agency said in a report this summer that trafficking for sexual exploitation accounted for 79 percent of all trafficking cases in Thailand from 2014-2017. Of the 1,248 victims detected, 70 percent were underage girls,

a 2019 report said, citing data from Thai authorities. The U.N. cited sex tourism as a factor in fueling the trafficking of more victims, who were forced, coerced or deceived into sexual exploitation.

The U.S. State Department has faulted Thailand for failing to fully crack down on traffickers who induce young Thai girls into pornography, as well as the exploitation, including via debt bondage, of migrant workers in commercial fishing enterprises.

The Thai government has insisted it has made significant progress in cracking down on human trafficking and has vowed continued cooperation with international bodies to improve.

Prime Minister Chan-o-cha

didn't make any reference to the problem in his remarks to Francis, though he stressed that Thailand had made great strides in promoting human rights.

"We have sought to strengthen the family institution and ensure equal opportunities for all groups in society, especially women and children," he told Francis after a brief private meeting.

Francis has made the fight against human trafficking one of the cornerstones of his papacy, calling it a crime against humanity. Under his express wishes, the Vatican has hosted several conferences on eradicating trafficking, featuring women freed from forced prostitution. In addition, up until it signed an agreement with the U.N. refugee agency this year, Thailand held child asylum-seekers in detention centers.

Francis had a busy schedule on his first full day of activities of his weeklong tour, which will also take him to Japan. Small crowds of Thais greeted him at each destination, and Francis dutifully followed the custom to remove his shoes when he entered the jeweled, intimate Wat Rachabophit temple.

more to resolve the conflicts that fuel the "tragic exodus" of forced migration.

"May every nation devise effective means for protecting the dignity and rights of migrants and refugees, who face dangers, uncertainties and exploitation in their quest for freedom and a decent life for their families," he said.

While Thailand has a tradition of taking in migrant laborers and sheltering people fleeing from danger in neighboring countries, it also has a checkered history of deporting foreigners who are in the country illegally, even if they are recognized by the United Nations as refugees who are fleeing persecution. In addition, up until it signed an agreement with the U.N. refugee agency this year, Thailand held child asylum-seekers in detention centers.

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More protesters leave Hong Kong campus ahead of weekend poll

BY EILEEN NG
and ANDI JATMIKO
Associated Press

HONG KONG — More than 20 protesters inside a Hong Kong university campus surrendered to police on Thursday as the city's largest pro-Beijing political party urged voters to "kick out the black force" in upcoming elections seen as a key gauge of public support for anti-government demonstrations.

At least 23 people left Hong Kong Polytechnic University, which has been ringed by riot police for days, as the campus siege edged closer to an end. Ten protesters walked out together and were escorted to a police post outside the campus, while three were carried out on stretchers and four taken in wheelchairs. Five other students, believed to be minors, came out with their parents and were allowed to leave after police took their details.

Ten protesters walked out together and were escorted to a police post outside the campus, while three were carried out on stretchers and four taken in wheelchairs. Five other students, believed to be minors, came out with their parents and were allowed to leave after police took their details.

It is unclear how many

protesters are left behind. They are the holdouts from a much larger group that occupied the campus after battling police over the weekend. Some 1,000 protesters have either surrendered or been stopped while trying to flee.

The city's largest political party slammed the flareup in violence in the past week and urged some 4.1 million voters to use the ballot box this Sunday to reject the "black force" that had thrown the semi-autonomous Chinese territory into unprecedented turmoil since June.

The black force say they want to fight for freedom but now people cannot even express their views freely. We have even been stripped of our right to go to school and work," said Starry Lee, who heads the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong.

Lee and some candidates kicked black footballs at a

campaign event in a sym-

bolic banishing of the black-clad protesters. "If everyone comes out to vote, Hong Kong can be restored and violence can be stopped," she said.

The party is contesting 181 of the 452 district council seats, a low-level neighborhood election held every four years and dominated by the pro-establishment camp. For the first time, all the seats will be contested. Public anger against the government and police could give a victory to the pro-democracy bloc that would bolster the legitimacy of the protest movement.

"We cannot give even a single vote to the pro-establishment camp," said an angry mother, who with her young son joined hundreds of people at a sit-in protest at a mall against an attack by thugs on protesters four months ago. A live video of the protest was broadcast by Apple Daily newspaper.

Protesters, who believe mainland China is increas-

ing its control over the territory, are demanding fully democratic elections and an independent probe into alleged police brutality against demonstrators. The government rejected the demands and has warned the polls could be delayed if violence persists and transport links are disrupted.

A Hong Kong restaurant owner was deported from Singapore for organizing an illegal gathering last month to discuss the protests, Singapore media reported. Alex Yeung, who founded the Wah Kee restaurant chain and a staunch pro-Beijing supporter, will also be barred from entering Singapore without prior approval.

In a video posted on YouTube from Singapore's Changi Airport, Yeung said he has been warned to refrain from any criminal conduct. He didn't say where he was heading but urged Hong Kong residents to cast their vote on Sunday to "reject violence and support peace."

In Ukraine's bleak east, U.S. aid saves lives, raises morale

BY INNA VARENITSIA
Associated Press

AVDIIVKA, Ukraine — U.S.-made medical equipment, night-vision devices and counter-mortar radar makes a difference for Ukrainian troops fighting Kremlin-backed separatists on the front line of the standoff between Russia and the West. Sometimes, it's the difference between life and death.

So when \$400 million in U.S. military aid to Kyiv was held up this year, Ukrainians got nervous.

Every little bit of assistance helps in the World War I-style trenches of Avdiivka, where conscripts and volunteer soldiers use shovels to shore up mud walls, chop wood for makeshift stoves,

and cook their own food from local vegetables and canned supplies.

Rostyslav Pokotylo shows off the American flag inside the case for his night-vision gun scope, which he credits with saving his life in 2017.

"I ended up in a combat zone ... If not for this, who knows what would have happened," he says. "With its help, I could see the enemy. I saw the enemy first, and we opened fire."

As impeachment hearings play out in Washington, Ukrainian troops at the front described their hopes and fears to The Associated Press in the five-year conflict that has taken 13,000 lives and still simmers on, sporadic gunfire punctuating the autumn calm.

In the hearings, Democrats in Congress say U.S. President Donald Trump pressured his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, to investigate former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, a Democratic rival, while withholding U.S. military aid to Kyiv. Trump says the aid was held up over corruption concerns.

The holdup in aid wasn't something palpable that immediately affected the Ukrainian troops in action; it had more of a psychological impact, raising fears here that the U.S. was turning its back on Ukraine. The aid was later released, but the scandal has effectively frozen U.S.-Ukrainian relations and thrown long-term U.S. backing into doubt.

On the other side of the front line, separatists work from a similar, Soviet-made arsenal.

"We need support, and without support of our allies we won't win this war," Pokotylo said.

Avdiivka feels a world away from Washington. A soldier works his trench with a pickax. Another hangs wet laundry in the damp chill. Another cleans his Kalashnikov rifle with a piece of old rag.

While the U.S. aid helped fill some of the gaps in Ukraine's military capability, with counter-mortar radars being one highly welcome addition, its army continues to rely on aging Soviet-era weapons and often lacks essential supplies.

Heavy fighting erupted again in 2017, and Avdiivka remains a key spot on the

front. About 10 days ago, two Ukrainian soldiers were killed by light artillery fire as they unloaded firewood from their vehicle.

"Sometimes it's scary. Sometimes it's so dark that you can't see yourself, can't see your hand in front of you. You might get scared when you walk down the trenches at night. The trenches are long," said Kyrylo, a 21-year-old soldier who spoke on condition that his last name not be used for security reasons.

"My family is in danger. My loved ones," said Kyrylo, who's says he's fighting to protect his wife and 10-month-old daughter.

"I want all my comrades to survive," he said, his eyes welling up. "Many die."



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The City of Marion will be accepting applications through Friday, November 22, 2019 for the following position:
City of Marion Fire Department is seeking applicants for a full-time Secretary. Job responsibilities: Provides administrative and clerical support for the Marion Fire Department; processes and maintains financial, personnel and departmental records for the Fire Department. Initiates and tracks expenditures, prepares reports for various departments. Qualifications: Completion of secondary education or equivalent; training or experience in typing, computers, bookkeeping, and office procedures.
To apply: Mail application (available at City Hall in the Controller's Office or on our website at www.cityofmarion.in.gov) to City of Marion, Attn: Human Resources, 301 S. Branson St., Marion, IN 46952.

Professional
Grant County Government will be accepting applications for the Grant County Public Safety Communications Director through noon on Wed., Dec. 4, 2019. Responsibilities include the overall management of the Public Safety Communications System.

Requirements include: 5 years or more of education and related background, managerial and supervisory experience.

Applications and job description can be found at www.grantcounty.net

All applications must be turned into Grant County HR (jsaathoff@grantcounty.net) by the above deadline.

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